

USDA Forest Service  
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and  
Gunnison National Forests  
2250 South Main Street  
Delta, CO 81416  
Date: April 6, 2020  
Contact(s): Brittany Duffy,  
brittany.duffy@usda.gov, or  
970-240-5405  
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO  
COMMENT  
Red Mountain Pass 44kv Trans-  
mission Line Rebuild  
USDA Forest Service  
Grand Mesa Uncompahgre and  
Gunnison and San Juan Nation-  
al Forests  
Ouray and Columbine Ranger  
Districts  
Ouray and San Juan Counties,  
Colorado  
The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre  
and Gunnison National Forests  
(GMUG) and the San Juan  
National Forest (SJNF) of the US  
Forest Service (USFS), are seek-  
ing input regarding a proposal  
by San Miguel Power Associa-  
tion, Inc. (SMPA) to reconstruct  
an existing 16.2 mile transmis-  
sion line system known as the  
Red Mountain 44 kilovolt (kV)  
line. Approximately 12 miles of  
the line are located on federally  
managed lands in Ouray and  
San Juan Counties. The project  
area is primarily adjacent to U.S.  
Highway 550, and if approved,  
the project would provide in-  
creased service, reliability, and  
a backup power source for the  
communities of Ouray, Ridgway,  
and surrounding rural areas. In  
addition, a fiber optical ground  
wire would be added to the  
new line and would have spare  
fibers which could be used for  
commercial purposes such as  
expanding broadband service.  
If approved, the Forest Service  
will issue a special use permit to  
rebuild, maintain, and operate  
the 44 kV line across National  
Forest System (NFS) lands  
administered by the USFS in the  
GMUG and SJNF. In addition,  
the USFS will identify conditions  
to include in the Construction  
Stipulations and in the Oper-  
ation and Maintenance plan.  
Based on the environmental  
analysis, the USFS will decide  
whether to 1) approve the propo-  
nents' proposed action, 2) not  
approve the proposed action, or  
3) approve an alternative to the  
proposed action.  
Opportunity to Comment  
This will be the only public  
opportunity to comment on this  
proposal per 36 CFR 220.4(e)  
and to obtain objection standing  
per 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and  
B. Comments received will be  
reviewed by the Interdisciplin-  
ary Team and cooperating agen-  
cies and will be used to identify  
issues, develop alternatives to  
the proposed action, and de-  
velop environmental protection  
measures.  
To be most helpful, your com-  
ments should be 1) within the  
scope of the proposed action, 2)  
have a direct relationship to the  
proposed action, and 3) must  
include supporting reasons  
for the responsible official to  
consider. To establish standing  
for the objection process, all  
specific written comments (36  
CFR Subpart B 218.25) must be  
postmarked within 30 days from  
publication of the legal notice  
in the Grand Junction Daily  
Sentinel and Durango Herald or  
by close of business on May 6,  
2020, whichever is later.  
Your comments should include:  
1) your name and postal ad-  
dress, 2) the project title (SMPA  
Red Mountain Rebuild), and 3)  
your signature or other verifi-  
cation of identity upon request.  
Comments received from indi-  
vidual members of an organized  
group through a clearinghouse  
or group-generated mail will  
be considered as the views of  
the group (pursuant to 36 CFR  
Subpart B 218.25(a)(3)(v)).  
Please submit comments via the  
online comment tool at: <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=57912> or to the Ouray Dis-  
trict, Attn: SMPA Red Mountain  
Rebuild, 2505 S. Townsend Ave.,  
Montrose, CO 81401, by email to  
brittany.duffy@usda.gov, or by  
fax to (970) 240-5367.  
Please be advised that your  
entire comment, including your  
personally identifiable infor-  
mation, may be made publicly  
available at any time. While you  
can request that your person-  
ally identifiable information be  
withheld from public review, we  
cannot guarantee that we will be  
able to do so.  
Contact Information  
The GMUG National Forest has  
been delegated authority by  
the Rocky Mountain Regional  
Forester as the lead forest for  
the environmental analysis, and  
for issuing permits required for  
construction over NFS lands.  
For more information, go to  
[https://www.fs.usda.gov/pro-  
ject/?project=57912](https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57912) or contact  
Brittany Duffy, Ouray District  
Lands and Minerals Staff at  
(970) 240-5405 or brittany.  
duffy@usda.gov.  
The U.S. Department of Agricul-  
ture (USDA) is an equal opportu-  
nity provider and employer.  
Published: April 5, 2020.

ATION

STATE OF COLORADO  
County of (Mesa)

Terry Flanagan

Being duly sworn, says that I am Legal Secretary of  
The Daily Sentinel, a daily newspaper, published and duly printed in  
The County of Mesa, State of Colorado; that said newspaper has a  
general circulation in said County and has been continuously and  
uninterruptedly published therein, during a period of at least  
fifty-two consecutive weeks next prior to the first publication  
of the annexed notice; that said newspaper is a newspaper within the  
meaning of the act of the general Assembly of the State of Colorado,  
entitled "An Act to regulate the printing of legal notices and  
advertisements," and amendments thereto; that the notice of which  
the annexed is a printed copy taken from said newspaper, was published  
in said newspaper, and in the regular and entire issue of every number  
thereof once a week for 1 successive week;  
that said notice was so published in said newspaper proper and not in  
any supplement thereof, and that first publication of said notice as  
aforesaid, was on the 5th day of April, 2020,  
and the last, on the 5th day of April, 2020.  
Copies of each number of said paper in which said notice and/or  
list was published were delivered by carriers or transmitted by  
mail to each of the subscribers of said newspaper, The Daily Sentinel,  
according to the accustomed mode of business in this office.



on to before me, this 6TH day of APRIL, 2020



THERESA JOEST  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
STATE OF COLORADO  
NOTARY ID #20194006589  
My Commission Expires February 15, 2023